Title: Claims Objections under M.P.E.P 608.01(m). Each claim begins with a capital letter and ends with a period.

Title: Response to Office Action 2. Claim Rejections- 35 U.S.C. 112.

WHAT IS CLAIMED INCLUDES:

Claim 1, page 8/9. Cancel and substitute claim 7.

Claim 7. The non- slip dive ballast mold is cast of a high heat- dissipating metal such as aluminum. The mold is similar in shape to a ladle which has a main body or reservoir, a handle, a gusset to reinforce the handle and more than two substantial protrusions within the main body. The main body or reservoir is capable of retaining molten lead which is of liquid characteristics. The protrusions represent the positive mold portion that becomes the negative section of the cast product of the mold and forms the apertures in the cast part. The cast part is called a non- slip dive ballast.

The non- slip dive ballast mold shape is of little consequence. However, the aperture placement is critical.

The non- slip dive ballast size options are two (2) inches to six (6) inches in length, three (3) inches to six (6) inches in width and one forth (1/4) inch to two (2) inches in thickness. The ballast shape and dimensions may vary to satisfy personal preference of desired esthetics and buoyancy requirements. While the size, shape and thickness of the ballast may deviate, the location, shape and task of the belt receiving apertures through the ballast remains constant.

A1

The substantial mold protrusions are shaped to form passageways or apertures within the cast ballast that will accept a belting material. The belt receiving slots or apertures number more than two and are located equal distant across the ballast or as personally desired. The protrusions within the main body of the mold are located side by each, in a row, parallel to each other, and of a size that the cross section of the belting material will penetrate the apertures of the cast product of the non- slip mold. The protrusions are connected to the main body's inner floor of the mold and are of significant draft (foundry term for taper, slope, or angle) that the cast part will eject readily from the mold. The inner walls of the main body are also of significant draft for the cast part release.

A high density molten metal, such as lead, is poured into the mold and forms a non- slip dive ballast with more than two substantial apertures within the lead. Further, the apertures are in a parallel alignment so belting material will be woven in and out through the apertures in the ballast to form a non-slip condition on a belting material.

The more than two slots concept causes sufficient resistance between the ballast and belting material that the non-slip dive ballast will not move, slip, creep or otherwise change position on a belting material without a deliberate physical influence from an outside human force.

The outside human force means that the belt be manipulatively fed through each of the belt receiving slots one at a time until the ballast location on the belt is achieved. The afore mentioned resistance caused by the more than two apertures design, implements ample resistance of ballast to belting contact of the belt through the ballast that the

belting material must be fed through each aperture individually to promote movement of the ballast along the belting material. Once the ballast location is realized on the belting material the ballast will remain fast.

Claim 2, page 8/9. Cancel and substitute claim 8.

Claim 8. The non-slip dive ballast that is cast from the non-slip dive ballast mold described in claim 7, has more than two substantial belt receiving apertures that will cause a non-slip status between the ballast and the belting material to insure a fast location of the ballast on a belting material. The ballast is readily adjustable along the belting material by sequentially weaving the belting material through the more than two belt receiving slots within the non-slip ballast.

Claim 3, page 8/9. Cancel and substitute claim 9.

Claim 9. The ballast discussed in claim 8, is undemanding and user friendly to adjust, install and/or remove on a belting material. Successful adjustment is attained by skills of minimum manual manipulative dexterity.

Claim 4, page 8/9. Cancel and substitute claim 10.

A1

Claim 10. The ballast disclosed in claim 8 and claim 9 has the capability of being placed in plurality, stacked or woven together with a belting material which increases or decreases the amount of weight in a single location on the belting material and maintains the non-slip distinction. The phrase, amount of weight in a single location, means more than one ballast may occupy the space of one ballast position on the belting material.

Claim 5, page 8/9. Cancel. No substitution.

Claim 6, page 8/9. Cancel and substitute claim 11.

Claim 11. The non-slip dive ballast mold requires only a high heat-dissipating metal such as aluminum of which the non-slip dive ballast mold is cast. A high density metal such as lead for the non-slip dive ballasts of more than two apertures, a belting material and a quick release buckle are the only ingredients necessary to produce a complete, functional, uncomplicated, competent and efficient buoyancy control apparatus that is used by divers in underwater diving ventures.